

# NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

VOL. 1 NO. 10

APRIL 11, 1984



## LONG-NOSE BUTTERFLY FISH 4th SERIES OF HAWAIIAN FISH WOODEN TOKEN

The 4th of the series of Hawaiian Fish HSNA wooden token features an island shoreline reef fish, the Long-nose Butterfly, known in Hawaii as Lau Wiliwilinukunuku-'oi 'oi. The fish is found on all the island shoreline reefs. The fish has a color of dark black on the top of the head with a black circle and tail. It is also white on the lower part of the head and has a dark yellow, almost marigold yellow body. The color of the token will be black on wood and it will be sold at our mini-show, Susannah Wesley Community Center, on May 5, 1984. Mail orders will be accepted. To order through the mail, send 25 cents per wood, plus a SASE to:

Honolulu Coin Club  
P.O. Box 6063  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818



HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
3RD ANNUAL  
**MINI COIN SHOW**  
SUSANNAH WESLEY  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
1117 KAILI STREET  
SATURDAY MAY 5, 1984  
9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

## 1983 HSNA EXHIBITS

BY IRVING KAM

The making of a winning exhibit breaks down into five major categories. Listed in order of their importance, they are: (1) Numismatic Information; (2) Originality and Arrangement; (3) Completeness; (4) Condition; and (5) Rarity.

The judges felt Showcase Number Seven's display on Captain Cook met those requirements closer than any other entry. Crane Saito's beautiful effort titled, "The Man Who Mapped the Pacific" was the unanimous choice for first place and also Best of Show.

Second Place went to W.K. Young's exhibit of paper currency featuring Silver Certificates. Third Place to Kazuo Oyama's display on "The Seven Varieties of the 1982 U.S. One Cent." Honorable Mention to Roy Kaneshiro and his showing of Kennedy Half Dollars.

First Place in the Junior Division was won by Sue Hunt. This is the second year in a row for Sue. Congratulations!

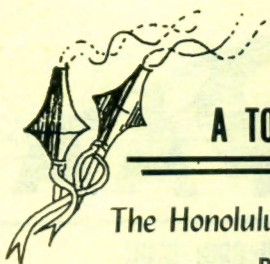
Before going any further, I'd like to give a special mahalo to Scott Lum for literally taking over the exhibit duties as Charlie and I were kept intermittently busy elsewhere. I'd also like to thank our very able judges, Arthur Wong, Karen Leatherman, and Chuck Walton. We appreciate them coming down on a holiday and drawing from their artistic backgrounds to make these difficult decisions.

So, on behalf of H.S.N.A., Charlie Matsuda, and myself, we'd like to congratulate Best of Show winner, Crane Saito, and each of the other entries. Again, a sincere mahalo to all for your participation and hard work. Hope to see you again next year. Aloha! Pau.

## *Mahalo from the Honolulu Coin Club*

BY GREGORY HUNT

The Honolulu Coin Club would like to thank the various coin dealers and friends for their contribution to our Christmas party held on December 17, 1983. They are as follows: Jerry Ogata, Les Crawley, Hawaiian Mint, McCully Stamp and Coin, Ala Moana Stamp and Coin, Ltd., Alii Stamp and Coin, Hawaiian Island Stamp and Coin, Honolulu Stamp and Coin, J.D. Peters, Inc., Aloha Coin Galleries, Irving Kam, Jim Dean, Aiea Collectables, Francis Loo, Ralph Brown, L.C. McDonald, Captain Cook Coin of Hawaii, and Downtown Coin Gallery. Your generous kōkua has made the Honolulu Coin Club Party a real success. Mahalo to all.



## A TOUCH OF HAWAIIANA

The Honolulu Cracker Company Token

BY GARY LAU



STATEMENT			
HONOLULU CRACKER COMPANY, Ltd.			
Biscuit and Cracker Manufacturers			
CONFECTIONERS			
108 North King Street			
Honolulu, T. H.			
July 31st, 1923			
M. Ching Fong Leong			
Honolulu			
Oahu			
DAY	DESCRIPTION	CHARGES	CREDITS
7/3	TO ACCOUNT RENDERED	\$	1.20
	PAID		
	8/27/23		
	Hon. Cracker		
	By Fong		

The Honolulu Cracker Company was established in 1911 on the Island of Oahu. It was located at 108 N. King Street and business was both wholesale and retail distribution of crackers, biscuits and candies. During the years 1911-1922, the Manager was Mr. T.M. Kon. There were many different bakeries around town and tokens were used in many of them as a sales pitch for customers to return and redeem. Deliveries of baked goods during this time were made by horse-drawn buggies. In 1923, a man named Joseph (Joe) Ching Fatt became Manager and Secretary for the next two years. He subsequently became successful in the restaurant business, having two cafes, one on Wai-alee Avenue and one in the Moana Hotel under the name of "Joe Fatt's." In 1925, until the dissolution of the Company in 1932, the Manager's duties were taken over by Mr. Chou Moon Hung. The Company distributed tokens to their customers for loaves of bread at 5 cents each. This token is extremely scarce and is unlisted in the present Hawaiian token book by Don Medcalf.

Obverse: Honolulu Cracker Co. N. King St.

Reverse: Good for 5¢ loaf of bread



## talking story

BY IRVING KAM

Whether you collect coins, postcards, Hawaiiana, or stamps, somewhere along the way, the name Gerald Kwock will inevitably appear. Having to meet Gerald to finalize a deal, and knowing him to be a knowledgeable collector, I welcomed a chance to relax for a couple of hours and just talk.

It seems Gerald's natural curiosity took over after an uncle gave him a stamp book when he was eight years old. Concentrating strictly on Hawaiian stamps, he soon realized that his allowance and lunch money just weren't enough and found himself, as he put it, "wheeling and dealing", in the cafeteria of the old Stevenson School. A few years later he was in to coins and remembers getting his father to take him into town to a coin shop (next of King Theater) run by H.E. Bauer to buy three legged Buffalos. "Extra Fine or better for two bucks a piece".

Born with an uncanny foresight, he started buying three dollar gold pieces because he felt, even then, that they were vastly underpriced. As with other collectors, but with much more aggression, Gerald moved in to the diverse area of Hawaiiana. I have yet to meet anyone more versed on the subject of Hawaii tokens and medals. Being a contributor to the Medcalf-Russell book, *Hawaiian Money Standard Catalog*, Gerald devoted much time on research, often spending four hours every Saturday in the State Archives. In the case of the popular Hawaii school lunch tokens, he went to talk to principals, janitors, and any old timers of a particular school seeking information. Needless to say, his persistence paid off. He often used a metal detector but if he needed to crawl under those old buildings then, so be it. Gerald tells of even using a strainer (as in the kitchen utensil variety) to sift through the dirt for those lost tokens and coins. He remembers that the front steps of the administration buildings were very productive as any dropped token would fall through the cracks in the two-by-four lumbered steps. A small sampling of his many finds were a couple of the tough Liliuokalani School Tokens (TL-67) and the very scarce Kalihi Kai School Token (TL-45).

In 1967, Gerald took three months off from work to go on his first of many "junque" hunting trips to Maui. Using a wood frame with a chicken wire bottom, he sifted the dirt of old plantation camps in search of crude plantation tokens. His efforts were rewarded with a jar half filled with various tokens and among them were 1882 Haiku One Rial (TE-15), 1880 Wailuku Plantation Half Real (TE-6) and some 1891 Kahului Railroad 15 cents (TE-10). He once researched and assembled a collection of Hawaii Saloon Tokens (XF to BU), taking all of 13 years to do. When the time came to sell the collection, he couldn't find anybody interested locally. So while attending a Token Show on the West Coast, this collection was easily sold (price withheld but above book) with no questions asked. Gerald contends, "Now days, where can you find a Hilo Keystone Saloon Token? BU!" Even on the mainland, Gerald searches for Hawaii tokens. He recalls finding a very scarce Ala Moana School Lunch Token (TL-2) in a small town coin shop's junk box. And of all places, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

talking story; cont. pg 3

## **talking story cont. from pg. 2.**

In 1965, at the H.S.N.A. Coin Show, Gerald decided to exhibit some of his tokens. Eight showcases full! He promptly found himself going home with the Best of Show trophy. The next year, he was a double winner with a First Place titled, "Hawaiian Tokens and Medals" in the Hawaiiana Division and a First Place showing in the General Division called, "Mint Errors of the World". The latter comprised of numerous world coin errors including a Philippine One Peso Triple Struck, an India Rupee Double Struck, and a BU 1914 Republic of China, also Double Struck. Yet, through all of this, Gerald did not, and has not stopped "wheeling and dealing". He was very active at auctions and even ran ads on Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island, wanting to buy Hawaiiana.

In late 1964, he started putting coins and tokens on what was probably Hawaii's first bid board. The very next year, he put together his first price list and later opened his first coin shop. Renting space in his uncle's flower shop next to Kuhio Theater in Waikiki, he called his shop "Lang's Treasures, Inc." He has taken a table at major shows like Long Beach and the Jack Tar Show, but in 1963, he made his first buying trip to Hong Kong and has never missed a year since. I remember him telling me a story about a deal involving Sun Yat Sen paper money. It seems a Southern California gentleman was looking for something unique in the way of wallcovering. Gerald graciously sold him 55,000 pieces of the 1912 to 1927 Chinese Yuan. All crisp uncirculated and requiring three shipments by U.P.S.

Gerald's accomplishments in and out of his chosen hobby are many. Some of which include being a member of A.N.A. since 1963; being very active with his old Alma Mater, Roosevelt High School, as a member of the Executive Board of the P.T.S.A., Fund Raising Chairman, handles carnival finances, chaparones the band on trips, and on and on. He has lectured on Hawaiian tokens and medals at the University of Hawaii. In 1981, our local newspaper featured Gerald in an article about his collection of old porcelain marbles and the list still goes on.

Recently, he took up ballroom dancing, "To show the kids around the dance floor besides doing disco," and later entered the Arthur Murray Dance-O-Rama. The dance contest was held at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel in February of last year and Gerald was a finalist in both the rumba and the foxtrot, got third place bronze in the waltz, and took first place gold in the samba. Remember, he only started in 1981.

And trying to list his collections would take up all of this newsletter's space. Baseball cards, 45 r.p.m. records from 1948 to 1960, L.P.'s, juke boxes, intermediate and high school albums, and class rings. It would be much easier to list what he doesn't collect. Gerald admits to be going through his third childhood and when he is not collecting something, he spends his leisure time listening to music and creating new dance routines.

When asked what a new collector should start off with, he readily advises school lunch tokens or commercial tokens for Hawaiiana, and commemoratives (XF or better) for U.S. coins.

After knowing Gerald for just a few years, I found the difference between him and other collectors—it is not his diverse area of collecting, but his *strength* in all these areas. I, for one, cannot see anyone approaching his knowledge, foresight, or strong collecting urge, and a lot of us refuse to believe he would sell something he deems one of a kind.

In closing, I would like to thank Gerald for relating his personal insights into our hobby and I wish we had more space as he obviously has so much more information and stories to share.

I'd also like to thank Gerald for a good token deal at the end of our talk, if only to prove that he is indeed, still "wheeling and dealing". Aloha! Pau.



## *Honolulu Coin Club Meetings*

The Honolulu Coin Club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., Susannah Wesley Community Center with Club President, Gregory Hunt; presiding. Visitors and guests are always welcome at the meetings.

## *Coin Shows in the Hawaiian Islands*

### **HSNA MINI COIN SHOW**

Susannah Wesley Community Center  
May 5, 1984

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### **HONOLULU COIN CLUB STATEHOOD COIN SHOW**

St. Andrew's Cathedral  
Von Holt Room August 18, 1984

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### **HSNA COIN SHOW**

Hawaii's Largest  
Coin Show

Queen Kapiolani Hotel

November  
1 - 4 1984





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